

TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

Published every evening, Sunday excepted, by the Tonopah Bonanza Printing Co., Incorporated.

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Terms of Subscription by Mail for Daily Bonanza:

One Year	\$12.00	One Week	20
Six Months	7.00	One Month	2.00
Three Months	4.00	Three Months	2.00

Delivered by Carrier, \$1.50 per Month.

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Entered at the postoffice in Tonopah as second class matter.

PENALIZING SILVER.

If ever there was an iniquitous law affecting production of the money metals, it is the sur tax or tax on surplus profits. This measure was designed to minimize profits on war contracts and in that respect the object was admirable. However, the application was made to cover all industries, regardless of whether they were essentials or luxuries and in that respect the law was unjust. The world is suffering from a shortage of silver, and common sense should dictate a bonus on the production of money metals. In fact, the British government was keen to see the value of such a stimulus on gold production, since that nation paid a bonus on production of its gold mines, while the American miner was taxed to an inordinate degree for the privilege of helping the world shoulder the enormous aggregate of taxes piled up through war operations. In spite of the increased cost of mining supplies and all commodities entering into the industry, the silver producers were included in the list of profiteers who fattened off war contracts where the government frequently furnished the capital and permitted the contractors to pile up earnings on the cost of construction. Silver mines came under the ban of taxation at a time when substantial inducements should have been provided in order to bring the mines to the highest state of efficiency. Every channel through which the people's money went out was looked after with a wisdom that would have merited a better cause, but when it came to the increment of value the administration stultified itself by throwing every impediment in the way of development. Consequently there was no incentive to open gold and silver mines except in cases where the cost sheets would show net earnings coming within the figures established by the administration as an equitable profit. Expansion of mining was prohibited and it became a fixed policy that the leading producers preferred to leave their profits in the ground instead of exerting their talents and resources to aid the government by flooding the treasury with money metals. Had the administration taken a different view of the situation there would not have existed the necessity for encouraging an era of inflation through an unlimited issue of paper money backed only by the credit of the nation. With the ever present threat of confiscation before their eyes there was no impulse for the mining industry. Silver producers were made to suffer, for they were coerced into sacrificing their wealth more than any single industry to meet the exigencies of war for, in a dismal effort to help our richest ally, silver was sold at a dollar an ounce when the intrinsic value was much greater. The silver reserve was taken out of the treasury and disposed of in such a manner that a commercial rival could maintain its ascendancy in the Oriental markets and the silver miner was compelled to sell in an artificially depressed market while other industries were bonused and coddled to stimulate them to the greatest endeavor. The hope of every western man is that the dominant party in congress will see the evil of this system and be quick to remove the vicious sur taxes from the silver mines. The metal cannot be held down much longer and, if Washington does not take remedial action, the silver producers will have to organize for their own protection against the absurdity of submitting longer to the quotations fixed by a debtor nation whose chief interest is in debasing the white metal.

MISTAKES OF ARMY AVIATION.

A casual reading of the reports of the transcontinental airplane contest suggests the query, why the aerial branch of the army should have selected the central or more northern route for essaying the long distance flight at the season when winter's fangs are beginning to make their influence felt in the mountain states and their northerly neighbors. At least one death may be ascribed to this folly, for we read that a gallant aviator, attempting to cross Wyoming in face of an Arctic blizzard, ran into a mountain and met his death. Encounters with storms might have been expected on the threshold of winter when the storm king reigns with disastrous fury in the Sierras and Rocky mountain regions and the bleak plains of Wyoming and Nebraska are harried by blizzards against which no human force can contend. That a majority of the flyers succeeded in reaching their controls in these regions is more a matter of good luck and determination on the part of the crews than to any precautions ordained by their superior officers. The contest was not arranged without long preparation and the guiding minds should have known that at this season the southern route offers the least danger of encountering the forbidding elements. The only argument advanced in favor of the chosen route was the proximity of cities where controls could be established although a little forethought might have provided these stations along the southern route where the altitudes are not so great and where weather disturbances do not compare with the rigors of the northwest route.

A CLEAN-UP IS NEEDED.

Members and attaches of the United States civil service commission, the membership of which was recently revolutionized in connection with the administration's plans to hog all federal jobs for deserving democrats have rushed to the defense of the post-office department official charged with having juggled the grades in examinations for appointments as postmasters that democrats always got the places no matter how the examination comes out. This practice is so general that the defense of the process by officials of the civil service commission is a sufficient commentary upon the operations of that body. It is evident that with a change in administration it will be important to have not only a clean-up in the postoffice department but another in the civil service commission.

CAUSE FOR REACTION.

"The public indorse very heartily today the action of his medical and political advisers in forcing Mr. Wilson to end his campaign of speeches and retire into quietude for a season. The hyperacidity which affected his stomach has spread itself to his vocal cords, apparently even to his cerebral gray matter. All his

recent utterances have been distinctly pathological and, as such, they have made the most painful impression upon the citizenry. Of course, there can be no two opinions as to the significance of the president's breakdown. It is the natural reaction to a crushing disappointment and overwhelming sense of failure. From its very inception, he must have discerned the indifference, if not the hostility, of the communities he visited to his un-American program. While the opposition in Washington grew more steadfast, if not more aggressive, his effort to raise up anything like a wave of popular sentiment to stay its progress was totally abortive."—New York Sun.

There must be something wrong when Alabama returns a Republican to congress after giving Wilson a majority of 4200 in 1916.

JUST A LINE OR TWO WITH YOU

By C. L. B.

YESTERDAY.
* * *
WAS A rather hard day for me.
* * *
AND WHEN I got home
* * *
I WAS tired out.
* * *
AND AT about nine o'clock
* * *
I WENT to bed.
* * *
AND MADE up my mind
* * *
THAT I was going
* * *
TO HAVE a good night's sleep.
* * *
AND IT didn't take me
* * *
FIVE MINUTES
* * *
TO FALL off to sleep.
* * *
AND SOME hours later
* * *
I WOKE up.
* * *
AND HEARD the phone bell ring.
* * *
AND I turned on the light.
* * *
AND LOOKED at my watch.
* * *
AND IT was exactly
* * *
QUARTER TO TWO.
* * *
AND I wondered
* * *
WHO ON earth
* * *
COULD BE calling me.
* * *
AT THAT hour of the night
* * *
AND I went to the phone
* * *
AND A man's voice
* * *
SPOKE UP and said:
* * *
"IS GRANT CRUMLEY there?"
* * *
AND I replied at once
* * *
THAT WHOEVER it was talking
* * *
HAD ASKED CRUMLEY
* * *
TO GIVE him.

THE WRONG number.
* * *
AND IT made me mad
* * *
AND I told him
* * *
TO HOLD the wire.
* * *
JUST A minute or two
* * *
AND THAT I would see
* * *
IF I could get Mr. Crumley.
* * *
TO THE phone.
* * *
AND THEN
* * *
I LET the receiver
* * *
STAY OFF the hook.
* * *
AND WENT back to bed.
* * *
AND DROPPED off to sleep.
* * *
AND I hope
* * *
THAT THAT guy
* * *
WAS STANDING
* * *
OUT IN a cold room
* * *
SOME PLACE.
* * *
AND THAT he sneezed himself to
* * *
DEATH.
* * *
WAITING FOR me.
* * *
TO CALL Mr. Crumley.
* * *
TO THE phone.
* * *
AND ANYWAY
* * *
I'M WILLING to bet
* * *
THAT HE stood at the phone,
* * *
A LONG time
* * *
BEFORE HE finally decided.
* * *
THAT MR. Crumley
* * *
WASN'T COMING.
* * *
YOURS TRULY,
C. L. B.



Ways to Cook Inexpensive Meats

Lamb Stew.
Broast of lamb, 2 pounds; boiling water, 2 cups; potatoes, 4 medium sized, quartered and parboiled; onion, 1, sliced; rice, 2 tablespoons; tomato, strained (1 cupful); or tomato ketchup, 1 tablespoon; salt and pepper. Brown the onions in a little of the fat in a saucepan; put with them the meat, cut roughly into cube-shaped pieces, about one and a half inches thick, and sprinkled with pepper. Cover them with boiling water, heat this to the boiling point again, then let it simmer directly over the heat for two hours, or cook it over hot water for three hours, or until the meat is tender. After one hour of simmering add the rice; half an hour before dishing the stew add the potatoes; when they are done remove the bones and pieces of fat, stir in the tomato or ketchup, add salt and pepper, if needed, and serve.

Broast of lamb, while rather wasteful in appearance, is one of the most economical parts of the animal. It is always less in price than the loin or leg, and can be used in many different ways. This particular cut, which is not the case in any other cut of lamb. It may be stuffed and baked or broiled and baked, serving with a tomato sauce.

Roasted Flank of Beef.
One flank steak, or one pound of top-round steak, one-half inch thick; suet, 2 or 3 small slices; carrot,

pan.
Round Steak en Casserole.
Cut round steak in pieces about two inches square; roll in flour and let brown in salt pork fat or dripping; remove to a casserole and add broth or hot water to cover, add more fat to the pan and in it brown a small onion for each serving; add these to the casserole, cover and let cook about two hours, or until nearly tender; for each serving add two small strips of carrot and half a dozen cubes of potato, parboiled and crowned in a frying pan; also salt and pepper as needed, and let cook until the vegetables are tender. Serve from the large dish or in individual casseroles.

Braining is steaming meat in its own juices in the oven—a method suitable for solid pieces of meat not tender enough for roasting, but of better quality than those utilized in soups and stews. The retention of steam under a cover, together with basting with the broth keeps the meat moist enough to permit the juices to flow, while the oven heat is intense enough to develop a rich flavor in hot meat and broth.

Horseshadish Sauce.
One-quarter cup freshly grated horseshadish, 1-4 cup soft bread crumbs, 1-2 teaspoon salt, 1 cup white sauce, 1-4 teaspoon paprika, 2 tablespoons lemon juice, 1 tablespoon vinegar. Mix horseshadish, bread crumbs, salt, paprika and white sauce. When hot, add lemon

juice and vinegar.

Beef Ragout.

Wipe three pounds of beef cut from the flank or round. Cut into small cubes; dredge with flour. Brown meat in hot frying pan, being careful to avoid burning. Remove meat to kettle with close-fitting cover. Brown four tablespoons butter; add four tablespoons flour and continue browning; add one and a half cups stock or water, one-half cup each of carrot and onion, pour over meat; season with salt and pepper, and simmer one and a half hours.

Cannelon of Beef.

Two pounds of any cut of lean beef 1 tablespoonful of fine-chopped parsley, 2 tablespoonfuls of salt, 1 teaspoonful of onion juice, 1-4 teaspoonful of olive, 1 egg beaten, one-third cup of soft bread crumbs, 1-4 teaspoonful of pepper, one-quarter cup milk. Pass the meat through a food chopper several times; add the other ingredients, the eggs, beaten, and the bread crumbs, moistened with the milk; mix thoroughly and shape in a roll. Bake between thirty and forty minutes in a medium oven; baste frequently with fat from salt pork and hot water. Serve with tomato or mushroom sauce or with macaroni and cheese.

If you have speed and run in the right direction you'll land inside the money provided you don't keep looking back over your shoulder to see how the others in the race are coming along.

Women may be hard to understand but they're easily fooled when you tell them you understand them.

A man never consults his friends about getting into trouble, but how he does rush to them to help him out!

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